Message Text

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AMEMBASSY JIDDA AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TAGS: CGEN

SUBJECT: JORDAN RIVER BRIDGE CROSSINGS

REF: AMMAN 618

1. FOR AMMAN. AMMAN REFTEL INDICATES PRIVATE AMERICANS (AND PRESUMABLY ALL THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS) MAY NOT DEPART JORDAN VIA BRIDGE IF THEY ENTERED JORDAN VIA BRIDGE.

A. MAY IT AUTOMATICALLY BE ASSUMED THAT TRAVELLERS MAY DEPART JORDAN VIA BRIDGE IF THEY ENTERED JORDAN EITHER OVERLAND FROM ANOTHER ARAB COUNTRY OR BY AIR? LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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B. IS THERE A DISTINCTION BETWEEN SUCH OVERLAND ENTRY AND AIR ENTRY--NOTABLY, DOES ARRIVAL IN JORDAN VIA JORDANIAN AIRLINES MAKE A DIFFERENCE (WHICH WE UNDERSTAND USED TO BE THE CASE)?

C. WHAT ABOUT TRAVELLERS WHO ARRIVE IN JORDAN OVERLAND FROM ANOTHER ARAB COUNTRY OR BY AIR AND WANT TO MAKE ROUNDRIP TO ISRAEL OR ISRAELI CONTROLLED AREAS VIA BRIDGE AND THEN DEPART JORDAN BY AIR OR OVERLAND TO ANOTHER ARAB COUNTRY?

D. DO JORDANIANS MAKE ANY DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS AS FAR AS USE OF BRIDGE IS CONCERNED?

E. DO JORDANIAN REGULATIONS SPECIFICALLY PROHIBIT THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS WORKING IN ISRAEL (BUSINESSMEN, JOURNALISTS) FROM ENTERING JORDAN VIA BRIDGE DURING PERIOD OF THEIR ISRAEL RESIDENCE, EVEN IF THEY DEPART JORDAN BY ANOTHER ROUTE?

2. FOR TEL AVIV. A. ARE THERE ANY ISRAELI RESTRICTIONS OR LIMITATIONS ON USE OF BRIDGE BY PRIVATE AMERICANS RELATING TO GIVEN TRAVELLER'S ITINERARY BEFORE OR AFTER TRAVELLER'S ENTRY INTO ISRAELI JURISDICTION?

B. IS THERE ANY WAY TRAVELLER CAN ARRANGE LESS STRINGENT ISRAELI INSPECTION OF HIS LUGGAGE AND PERSON ON ENTERING ISRAELI JURISDICTION VIA BRIDGE SHORT OF INTERVENTION BY EMBASSY WITH MFA IN ADVANCE? KISSINGER

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